

State of California HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY



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Change in Health Information Exchange Cooperative Grant Agreement Management Announced

SACRAMENTO - The California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS) announced today that the Institute for Population Health Improvement (IPHI) has been recruited to implement the Health Information Exchange (HIE) programs under the State's Cooperative Grant Agreement with the federal Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC). The agreement marks the next phase in the process to strengthen California's healthcare delivery system.

"Cal eConnect has been a terrific partner in helping get the Health Information Exchange program off the ground," said CHHS Secretary, Diana Dooley. "We will build on their success as we move onto the next phase of implementation."

CHHS will work in partnership with Cal eConnect to transition the HIE programs to the [Institute for Population Health Improvement](#), part of the UC Davis Health System.

"It was a tremendous privilege to be part of the initial launch of the HIE and we thank CHHS for their support and partnership," said David Lansky, Cal eConnect Board co-chair. "The board members, individually and collectively, remain committed to HIE in the state and will work together to continue with the program's implementation."

Cal eConnect helped build concrete action plans that will help build the critical infrastructure for HIE and will support efforts already underway in communities across the state.

The HIE programs will be under the direction of IPHI Director, Kenneth W. Kizer, M.D., M.P.H., and will be supported by an advisory panel to be appointed. Dr. Kizer has a long history of public and private sector experience in the areas of health information technology, health care quality improvement and population health. He has served as Chairman, president and CEO of Medsphere Systems Corporation, the nation's leading commercial provider of open source healthcare information technology. Dr. Kizer was the founding president and CEO of the National Quality Forum, a Washington, DC-based quality improvement and consensus standards setting organization and before that he served as the Under Secretary for Health, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, where he led the VA's transition to electronic health records and health information exchange in the late 1990s.

About the State Cooperative Agreement program

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) called for the development of a nationwide health information technology infrastructure. To support its development, ARRA created the State HIE Cooperative Agreement Program, which provides federal funding to states and "state-designated entities" to establish and implement statewide HIE networks. Cal eConnect became California's state-designated governance entity in March 2010.

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